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AGED NEGRO HEIR TO SMALL FORTUNE

Petition Filed For Letters of Administration to Settle Estate of Colored Union Soldier.

A petition for letters of administration was filed in the county court here Saturday, by John L. Sherman, praying that he be made administrator of the affairs of Juno Martin, an aged negro woman, living near Chaffee, whom the petition recites is the sole heir to the estate of William Gunther, alias Wyatt Ross, deceased, to which estate the government now owes \$3,414.08.

According to the petition on file, William Gunther, alias Wyatt Ross, was a member of a colored regiment in the Union army, in Arkansas, at the time of his death, in 1863. At the time of his death the government owed him as bounty and back pay \$908. This claim was never paid and now with the interest at six per cent amounts to \$3,414.08. The petition also asserts that the only living heir to this estate, which represented all of the property of William Gunther, is Juno Martin, who it is said is now one hundred years of age and is unable to transact any business for herself, and that the government refuses to pay over the claim until some suitable person is appointed as administrator of her affairs.

CITY SCHOOLS SHOW GREAT INCREASE

Two Hundred More Children Attend City Schools Than at This Time Last Year.

Few people in Vinita realize the rapid growth this city is enjoying. One of the best indications of the city's growth is shown by the great increase in the enrollment at the city schools, which for the year was about 200. Superintendent Masterson said Wednesday the enrollment so far, at this time was 760, which is just twenty less than the enrollment for the entire year of 1908-9. The enrollment at this time last year was 556, showing an increase for this year of 204. The increase is also very noticeable in the high school, the enrollment of which is more than double the enrollment at this time last year. The number of students now enrolled in the high school is 66, while last year only 32 were in this department.

While the building facilities at the city schools are inadequate, the board has selected an able corps of teachers and all departments of the school is doing nicely. It is expected that the increase in enrollment over last year will be 300 before the school year ends.

WHITNEY'S STORY FAVORS DR. COOK

New Haven Hunter Gives Reasons Why He Did Not Return to Etah For Cook's Stores.

New York, Sept. 30.—The following dispatch has been received by the Associated Press from Harry Whitney, the New Haven hunter, who arrived at St. Johns, N. F., yesterday, by the schooner Jeanie on his way home:

Stephenville Crossing, N. F., Sept. 28.—So many questions are being asked me by different papers that I decide to make the following statement through the Associated Press:

"My reasons for not going back to Etah after Dr. Cook's things was that the engines of the Jeanie, one of the smallest boats that ever went to the arctic, were not working satisfactorily, and we were depending partly on sails, which later we had to do entirely. Not knowing that Cook's things were left with me were of such importance as they have since turned out to be I did not return.

"In addition, I had promised the

Eskimos with me after muskoxen in Ellsmere land, certain things which I expected on the ship coming for me, but they were not aboard the Jeanie, and I did not want to return and disappoint the men. Another reason was I wanted to prolong my hunting trip, which I was able to do by not going back.

"I don't believe either Cook or Peary if placed in my position would have done any differently.

"Peary to my knowledge knew absolutely nothing about what had been left with me by Cook, except that I mentioned instruments, clothes and furs and also a narwhal horn. Cook's belongings left in my charge were placed in boxes which were nailed up. Then I saw the Eskimos cover them with rocks.

"No one could have been kinder to me or shown me more consideration than Peary did while I was on the Roosevelt, and he said he would be very glad to have me remain on board and return with him, instead of joining the Jeanie.

(Signed) "HARRY WHITNEY."

PRESIDENTS MEET ON NEUTRAL LAND

Territory Between El Paso and Juarez, Mexico, to Have Neither Flag When Presidents Meet.

Washington, Sept. 29.—When the long-heralded meetings between President Taft and Diaz of Mexico at El Paso, Tex., and Juarez, Mexico, take place next month, the intervening territory between these two cities, which is in dispute, will be for this occasion regarded as neutral territory and the flags of neither nation will be displayed therein.

This understanding has been reached on the part of the two nations concerned as the result of considerable correspondence. The region, known as the "El Chamizal," contains about 550 acres. Ownership of it is in question because of the shifting of the channel of the Rio Grande, the dividing line between the two countries.

On October 15 President Diaz will be welcomed in the name of President Taft at the entrance of the city of El Paso, outside of the El Chamizal zone. When President Taft goes to Mexico he will be welcomed in the name of the president of Mexico at the entrance of Juarez City. President Taft's escort will consist of headquarters band and two squadrons of the Third United States Cavalry, Batteries A, B and C, Third Field Artillery, and the Ninth Infantry from Fort Sam Houston, all under command of Brigadier General Albert L. Myer, commanding the department of Texas.

SEPTEMBER WHEAT JUMPS UP FIFTEEN CENTS TODAY

By Associated Press. Chicago, Ill., Sept. 30.—September wheat advanced nearly fifteen cents just before the close today.

"It was a neat and unexpected 'squeeze' of shorts that occurred in the startling finish, today. The bull pool held a scant supply deliverable on September contracts and they would not let go. One firm, short a quarter of a million bushels, raised its bids one, two and three cents and then five, but no wheat came. A dollar and nineteen was the bid before the wheat came out.

COOK TO LECTURE IN KANSAS CITY

Kansas City Mo., Sept. 30.—Dr. Frederick A. Cook, who made Robert E. Peary famous by beating him to the north pole, will be in Kansas City Friends of Pallas week.

He will lecture in convention hall Thursday night, October 7. The information that the explorer would come was received yesterday by President George M. Myers of the Friends of Pallas Festival Association in a telegram from W. M. Gray, manager for Dr. Cook, after the wires of both the Western Union and Postal telegraph companies had been sizzling with messages for four days.

ANOTHER TRIUMPH FOR BANK GUARANTEE LAW

Columbia Bank & Trust Company With Deposits Aggregating \$3,000,000 Closed By Bank Commissioner on Account of Faulty Securities--No Alarm Experienced Over Failure--Depositors Being Paid Dollar for Dollar--Will Reopen Soon.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Sept. 29.—State Bank Commissioner A. M. Young yesterday took charge of the affairs of the Columbia Bank & Trust company of Oklahoma City, one of the largest banking institutions of the state, and will remain in possession pending a re-organization of the company or a final closing of the assets to creditors and depositors.

Commissioner Young, during a recent examination, found securities he pronounced unsafe. The amount involved is not known. The state banking board held a session here tonight to outline a policy for settling the affairs of the bank.

It is reported that the board has \$600,000 available to pay depositors if it becomes necessary.

Bank Commissioner Young, who yesterday took charge of the Columbia Bank & Trust company, with deposits aggregating \$3,000,000, today began paying the depositors, dollar for dollar on their claims. The payments, it was announced, will be continued

By Associated Press.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Sept. 30.—A number of conferences were held today looking toward the reopening of the Columbia Bank & Trust company, which is in the hands of the state banking commissioner. The main conference was one in which President Norton of the bank made every effort to secure such funds and to make such proposals as would cause the state banking board to consent to his resuming the business. Norton today produced the books to support his claim that there had been no overdrafts to bank officials.

Less than a hundred persons were at the bank doors at the opening hour today, to withdraw their deposits. While individual depositors are being cared for to the exclusion of other debtors, such country banks as are pressed for immediate funds are cared for.

Bank Commissioner Young says that no statement of the bank's affairs will be given out until further investigation is made. Every depositor will be paid before anything else is done, then the matter of reorganization will be considered.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Sept. 30.—When the doors of the failed Columbia Bank & Trust company, now in the hands of the state banking commissioner, A. M. Young, were closed at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon, there were just seventy persons in the lobby counting several spectators drawn there to see the liquidation of a big bank under the guaranty deposit system.

From the sidewalk in front of the bank building it was impossible to see that anything unusual was happening in the neighborhood.

The question asked most frequently is what specific thing led the banking commissioner and the state banking board to close the bank. Mr. Young positively declined to make any statement on this matter. He said that information might be given to the public that would be premature and require subsequent correction.

It may appear today that a state official is a heavy borrower from the bank. The exact amount is not definitely known, but it is believed to run into thousands of dollars.

The rumor heard most frequently in explanation of the closing of the bank is that before President Norton came to Oklahoma City he obligated himself in certain business transactions to stand personally responsible for certain loans that had been put up for collateral loans, this collateral being the paper of oil operators in the eastern part of the state. According to this rumor, much of this paper was presented to Norton in the last two months and was taken over by him with the money of the bank. The amount of this paper is estimated at between two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, or practically the sum demanded by him by the banking

until all of the depositors are satisfied. The bank guarantee fund, together with the available assets of the bank, will be used in satisfying the claims.

No alarm is occasioned here over the failure. The officials say the bank will reopen in a few days, possibly under a new organization.

When the doors of the bank opened today, less than a hundred persons were waiting for admittance.

The overt acts of the officer or officers of the bank that caused the failure are yet a secret. Bank Commissioner Young said that at the close of business this afternoon a statement concerning the causes of the bank's collapse will be given out.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 29.—Local banks have shipped about a half million dollars to Oklahoma City, and shipments were also made from Wichita and St. Louis to prepare the banks of that city for any emergency as a result of the failure of the Columbia Bank & Trust company.

board Tuesday night as the condition upon which the bank would be permitted to re-open. Mr. Young was asked concerning the truth of this rumor. He refused either to affirm or deny it.

There is much dispute between bankers in eastern Oklahoma and bankers in western Oklahoma over the actual value of this oil paper. Eastern Oklahoma bankers laugh at the fear of the bank commissioner as indicated by his laying aside this oil paper as undesirable assets. They say that this paper, when the property is fairly valued, is just as good as the offering of wheat or corn to back up a loan.

The country bankers whose reserves represent about three-fifths of the bank's deposits laugh at their predicament. It is probable that they may be required to come to Oklahoma City to certify to their claims. If they should do this, it might happen that the home folks would get to talking about the trip, and start the story that the bank was hardpressed if the owner is compelled to go to Oklahoma City after money. This might result in a foolish run on the bank. Mr. Young yesterday had a special fund for the accommodation of small banks that might be in need of immediate funds to carry out pending contracts.

Governor Haskell assumed a threatening attitude yesterday toward several national bankers. Friends of the guaranty system still say that the omity of national bankers, rather than anything that may have been done by its officers, was the cause of the Columbia bank's suspension. Damaging stories that shut off the bank's credit in several of the larger cities in the north and east were circulated they say. Governor Haskell sent three or four men out today to engage national bank officers in conversation about the guaranty system and the probable outcome of the present liquidation. Some of these national bankers did not drop rose leaves in the hands of the governor's emissaries. The emissaries returned to Governor Haskell and made affidavits as to what the national bankers said. Governor Haskell at once called up one of these bankers and informed him that as governor he would call a grand jury in every county if necessary to stop such talk. He also threatened to withdraw deposits of state funds from certain national banks.

President Norton says he has in Oklahoma oil properties, industrial stock and bonds, a gross property of about a million dollars, though his liabilities are reported to be heavy. He listened willingly to the proposal of friends that he give a deed of trust upon his property after which these friends would raise sufficient money to enable him to regain control of the bank and meet all its obligations. The state officers, however, would not listen to this proposal. Norton still insisted

last night that the bank was solvent, and that there were many things he would like to say, but policy forbade his talking. Some of his friends assert that if oil paper that was thrown out of the assets is good, and they believe it is, the bank is not solvent.

Edward Cassidy, secretary of the state school land commission, said that the \$192,000 in school land funds in the bank were amply secured by collateral.

The special committee appointed by the last legislature of Wisconsin to investigate the banking guaranty deposit system reached here just in time to see all the artillery of the guaranty system unlimbered and brought into action. The commission was in session all afternoon at the Threadgill hotel. Residents of Oklahoma are invited to appear before the committee and questioned in secret and the assurance given that their identity, in connection with what they may say, will not be disclosed. A stenographer records the hearings.

KENTUCKY ORATOR AT BIG LOVE FEAST

Preparations Being Made to Serve Banquet to Six Hundred Democratic Workers.

The democratic meeting at Oklahoma City on Wednesday, October 6th, will be one of the greatest "Democratic Love Feasts" that the state has ever witnessed.

It is not in any sense of the word a "bee hatchery" and no candidate will enlarge the rim of his bonnet for the purpose of securing a chance to capture an elusive bee.

Ollie James, the gifted Kentucky congressman and orator will address the people at the fair grounds at 10 o'clock a. m.

Six hundred guests will be served at the banquet at convention hall at 8 o'clock p. m. Democratic workers, including the newspaper men from all over the state will be in attendance.

Toasts will be responded to by Senator T. P. Gore, Hon. W. S. Whittinghill, of Enid, Hon. C. W. Herod of Woodward, Hon. Preston S. Davis of Vinita, Hon. Gabe Parker of Academy, Hon. W. I. Gilbert of Duncan and Hon. George Evans, editor of the Chickasha Express.

All arrangements are in the hands of the Oklahoma City Democratic club who will act as hosts to the visiting democrats.

KATE BARNARD WILL INVESTIGATE CHARGES

Guthrie, Okla., Sept. 30.—Miss Kate Barnard, state commissioner of charities, and her assistant H. Huson, left today for McAlester, where they went to look into the charges of immorality and gross abuses at the state penitentiary made by ex-convicts in an Oklahoma City paper. Miss Barnard said that so far she had found no evidence to sustain the charges, but that the matter was so serious that a thorough investigation would be made. Miss Barnard has been urging upon the penitentiary board for some time the need of a matron at the state prison.

The doughty little commissioner will also take up with the juvenile court of Pittsburg county the matter of allowing three boys, whose ages run from 10 to 14 years, to be worked on the county roads. The boys were arrested for stealing a few cents worth of chewing gum, fined \$50 and costs each and put on the road to work out their fines. This procedure is claimed to be in direct violation of the juvenile court law passed by the last legislature.

RECOMMENDS FINDING STUBBLEFIELD GUILTY

By Associated Press. Coffeyville, Kans., Sept. 28.—Commissioner W. D. Atkinson, today, made public his findings in the state's case against Elmer E. Stubblefield, treasurer of Montgomery county, in which he recommends that Stubblefield be found guilty of acquiring over four thousand dollars, corruptly and unlawfully converted to his own use, money belonging to the county.

BOOZE CAPTURED BY SHERIFF'S FORCE

Raid Made Yesterday Afternoon on Frisco Freight Depot And Raines Livery Barn.

The sheriff and his force dealt another blow to the bootleggers Wednesday afternoon, when they raided the Frisco freight depot and the Raines livery barn. At the former place 46 cases of various brands of whiskey, consigned to various Vinita persons, whom the sheriff believes to be engaged in the illicit sale of liquors. All of the whiskey round there was loaded onto a dray wagon and taken to the county jail, where it is stored along with the 49 cases recently taken from the Frisco depot.

The many empty bottles around the Raines livery barn on South Wilson street had aroused the suspicion of the sheriff and a search warrant was procured and that place searched with the result that a trunk containing 49 bottles of the contraband goods was found. This was also confiscated and taken to the jail.

A buggy was found on Illinois avenue with six bottles of whiskey in it, and they were added to the quantity in store at the county jail.

OKLAHOMA CENTRAL FIRST TO COMPLY

American Express Company Has Filed Report of Earnings But Says Nothing of Paying.

Guthrie, Okla., Sept. 29.—The Oklahoma Central, the first railroad to comply with the provisions of the new gross revenue law, has filed the report of its gross earnings with the state auditor and announced that the voucher for the payment of his tax would be forwarded as soon as it could be approved by the federal court, which is now in charge of the road, through a receiver. The report shows that the company's gross earnings last year were \$106,142.38, which would make its tax \$530.71.

The American Express company also filed a report showing that its business between points within the state amounted to \$70,239.18, which, under the 3 per cent tax, would make its tax something over \$2,100, but said nothing about payment. The reports are not due until October 1, and most of the companies are taking their time about making them.

The Caney River Gas company, which supplies several east side cities with gas, filed its report today, showing business amounting to \$142,918.87, and paid \$714.59 tax. The Onaga and Oklahoma Gas company paid \$472.11 tax on business amounting to \$94,442.05. Altogether about \$1,800 in gross revenue taxes was received today, which is the largest single day's receipts from that source so far.

NEW HAVEN HUNTER ARRIVES ST. JOHNS

Declares Peary's Boatswain in Charge Was Instructed to Use Cook's Stores Before Peary's.

By Associated Press. St. Johns N. F., Sept. 28.—Arctic vessel "Jeanie" with Harry Whitney, the New Haven big game hunter, aboard has arrived here from the Greenland coast.

Whitney was interviewed and said that Cook arrived at Annatok in April 1909, and declared to him that he had reached the pole a year before and pledged him to secrecy. Regarding Cook's stores, Whitney said that Cook left a cache at Annatok on his way north, and that Peary, later, left one at Etah. He also declares that Murphy, Peary's boatswain, who was in charge of both houses had written instructions from Peary to use Cook's stores first and Peary's afterwards.